

# Bullseye Newsletter

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AGAWAM REVOLVER CLUB, INC.



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Welcome, to the 2017 Bullseye.

## This is Your Club

Your club is a non-profit corporation, member-owned, with a volunteer Board of Directors, which includes all club officers. Although we hire outside firms for most of the services that we require, such as cleaning, trap maintenance and our recent range expansions, there is always an opportunity to volunteer your time to assist with the operation of the club. If you have an idea that you think would make the club more efficient or safer, please contact one of your board members.

## NRA LIFE Membership Special

NRA has created some controversy recently by developing their own training network (Carry Guard) and their statements regarding 'bump-stocks'. But, they are still our best chance at obtaining National Reciprocity and holding back the flood of Gun-Control bills being introduced at both the state and national level. NRA membership continues to be a requirement of club membership and NRA has a special \$600 NRA LIFE membership offer, only through December 31, 2017. Use the link on our membership renewal web page if you are interested.

## Self Defense

Tom Gresham, in one of his recent 'Gun Talk'



broadcasts, stated that self-defense is the number one reason that people own guns.

John Farnam, a noted firearms trainer, says that, 'Guns carried with no round chambered represents a form of self-deception.'



Along those lines, we have included an article written by board member Jim Markowski regarding the liability associated with carrying an unloaded firearm.

## Dead Man's Gun– Jim Markowski

*I have decided to write this article in order to provide knowledge to ARC members as well as ONCE AGAIN emphasizing and reminding others about a significant factor in one's carrying a handgun for self-defense.*

*Every person is ultimately responsible for his/her own safety and their family's safety and not the federal government and not the local police. How one chooses to do that is of course your choice.*

*Honestly ask yourself why do you carry? The only reason is to protect you or others from a threat of serious bodily injury or death. Now ask yourself, is the manner in which you carry your handgun providing you the best opportunity to address that threat? Do you have the firearm skills to survive and WIN an armed encounter? Remember, there is no room for COMPLACENCY. One must have CONFIDENCE, COMPETENCY, and CONSISTENCY & MUSCLE MEMORY.*

*Are you a PRETENDER or an OPERATOR? We all pretended in our youth. There is no room for pretending while one is carrying a firearm.*

*A PRETENDER is one who possesses a handgun but VAINLY imagines he/she is competent to use it when needed; may not carry all the time; has received little or no training and merely shoots at paper; carries a 1911 style pistol concealed but the handgun is not COCKED & LOCKED and there is no round in the*

*chamber? Why? I have heard explanations from persons that he/she consider the firearm with a chambered round too dangerous to carry. Really? Then why carry?*

*An OPERATOR is one who goes armed constantly; trains regularly; ready to confront violence upon them or anyone else; is cognizant of his/her surroundings.*

*If one chooses to carry a firearm without a round in the chamber, that is one example of carrying a "dead man's gun". By the time one visualizes actions and then the brain determines that a threat is present and then one draws his/her firearm from the concealed carry position and then needs to chamber a round, one may truly experience a dead man's/woman's gun. That would be a tragedy that possibly could have been prevented. If one is uncomfortable carrying the pistol with a round chambered, consider carrying a different type of pistol and/or revolver. (I would hope that one who carries a revolver has rounds in each cylinder.)*

*Before one leaves the home with his/her pistol, one should conduct a PRESS CHECK/CHAMBER CHECK. That is easily accomplished with post 1998 MASSACHUSETTS compliant pistols as the firearms are equipped with a chamber indicator – if one can visually see the brass/nickel case, then you know that there is a round chambered. One may also pull back the slide of the pistol to visually observe the round chambered. One may choose not to perform a press check/chamber check and then leave the home with the firearm concealed on the person. If one then encounters an active threat while out and about whether alone and/or with loved ones and decides to present the pistol to address the threat, there may be no round chambered and the second example of a "dead man's*

gun" is present. Such a tragedy could also have been prevented.

In closing I recommend TRAIN LIKE YOU FIGHT & TRAIN FOR THE FIGHT & especially TRAIN TO WIN THE FIGHT. The FIGHT may never occur but one is ready and prepared. Remember the first shot out of the holster is the most important shot when addressing a threat. It sets the tempo for all follow on shots in a gun fight & MAY END THE GUN FIGHT.

Jim Markowski

Note that Jim Markowski teaches a variety of firearms-related classes at your club. More information can be found on our web site at <http://www.agawamrevolverclub.com/training.html>

To further highlight what it means to have an unloaded firearm in an emergency, here is a link to an hour long interview with the recent Texas Hero on NRATV: <https://www.nratv.com/home/video/stinchfield-stephen-willeford-nra-member-and-texas-hero-exclusive-hour-long-interview>.

Maintenance



Photo credit: Chuck D.

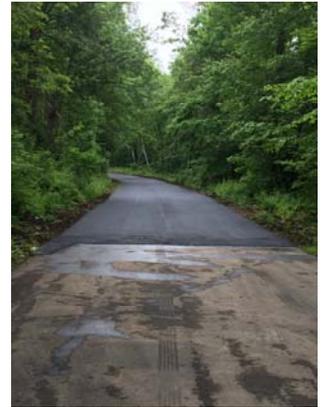
Having a safe environment to shoot is very important to all our members. During the last year, great strides have been made to clear our outdoor ranges of brush and stones. We need your help to keep our ranges clear of safety hazards. This includes taking home what you bring to the range and never leaving ANYTHING on our ranges. Brass, targets, trash, and



this time of year items such as pumpkins.

There is no rule that you cannot shoot vegetables, but please pick them up after you are done shooting. Animals do not magically come out of the woods and eat them when you leave. They stay there until they have rotted, presenting a hazard for those that use our ranges after you have left.

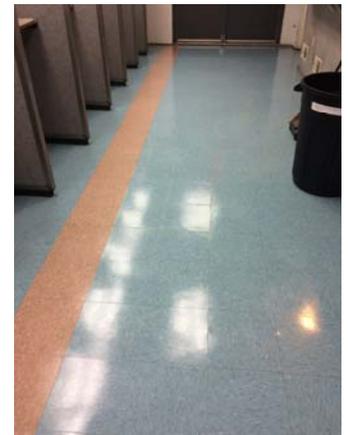
There have been many maintenance challenges in the last year, including the need to re-pave a section of our access road,



fix drainage problems around our building,



stripping and waxing of our tiled floors,



a transition to higher resolution security cameras and new signs at Route 57 and in the yard and building.



If you see something that obviously needs attention, if possible, please fix it your self (such as emptying a trash can to the dumpster). If you find an indoor target carrier that is not fully operational, please report it by putting up a sign indicating that it is broken and bring the carrier back to the target booth to prevent further damage. For this type of problem or anything more involved, be sure to also send an email using our web site or send an email to [OperationsManager@AgawamRevolverClub.com](mailto:OperationsManager@AgawamRevolverClub.com).

### Range Safety Quote

John Farnum (again) on range safety:  
'I routinely advise students that my range is not a "safe" place, and that all who are under the impression that when they're here, they're in a super-safe environment where no one can possibly get hurt, no matter how hard they try, labor under a delusion. Our goal is personal victory, accepting all inherent risks, and we go about it as safely as we reasonably can!'

### Reminders on Safety

All of our outdoor ranges close at sunset. Remember, that during the Winter, sunset comes much earlier. Sunset times are posted in your newspaper and available on the web or your smart phone. Our indoor ranges close at 10 PM. Do not put rocks on the ranges. (These become hazards in many ways and require removal.) No glass has EVER been allowed on our ranges. Do NOT climb on the backstops and do not let others (such as your children). Climbing puts you in line of sight with firing positions on other ranges. Firearms should NEVER be pointed anywhere but down range. All doors on the indoor ranges must be closed during shooting (to maintain a negative pressure and prevent cross-contamination of our air handling systems). To maintain range safety, our range rules and bylaws govern our actions. The rules are posted on our web site and on signs at our club.

### Guests– WATCH THEM!

Many problems which result in membership suspension, fine, or termination are the result of the actions of guests. Watch your guests closely. You are ultimately responsible if they violate club bylaws, range rules or basic safety rules. The safety of our members, guests and contractors is of primary importance!

### Handling and Loading of Firearms

Basic safety rules include never pointing a firearm at anything you don't want to destroy. The Board of Directors has received numerous complaints regarding shooters 'sweeping' other people on our ranges. Loaded firearms should NEVER be holstered or un-holstered unless facing down range. Firearms should NEVER be handled when some else is down range.

### Corrective Actions

As a result of members not following club rules, in the last year several members have been disciplined with suspension for a period of time or have received a membership termination. Most of these actions were brought to light by another club member reporting a violation of club safety rules but some included a 'borrowing' or 'sharing' of a key to your club (which is NOT allowed) or too many guests. If you see something that is obviously wrong or an unsafe activity and you are not comfortable approaching the person on our range, then report it by sending email from our web site. Like Eversource says, 'See It, Report It'. Thank you.

### Some other Important Information

#### Tips: when stopped by police and carrying a firearm [VIDEO]

From youtube.com: <http://tinyurl.com/p9qapkv>

#### Looking for money to purchase a new firearm or ammo? Check out the State of MA website to see if they are holding funds for you.

<https://www.findmassmoney.com/>

The most common cause is moving and then a bank, broker or a company stock event happens that awards you money. (But you are no longer there to receive it.)

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